

1 We claim:

1. A wheel comprising:

a wheel blank and

5 at least one design element,

wherein the at least one design element is a separate part attached to the wheel blank.

10 2. The wheel of claim 1 wherein the wheel blank further comprises an outer peripheral portion, an inner hub portion and an intermediate portion bridging the outer peripheral portion and the inner hub portion.

15 3. The wheel of claim 2 wherein the at least one design element is attached to the wheel blank of the intermediate portion.

20 4. The wheel of claim 1 wherein the wheel blank is made from aluminum.

25 5. The wheel of claim 1 wherein the wheel blank is made from steel.

6. The wheel of claim 1 wherein the at least one design element is a different color than the wheel blank.

30 7. The wheel of claim 1 wherein the at least one design element has a different finish than the wheel blank.

8. The wheel of claim 1 wherein the at least one design

1 element has a different surface texture than the wheel blank.

9. The wheel of claim 1 wherein the at least one design element is attached to the wheel blank by screws.

5 10. The wheel of claim 9 wherein an adhesive is applied to the screws prior to attaching the screws to the wheel blank.

11. The wheel of claim 10 wherein the adhesive is a high  
10 strength threadlocker.

12. The wheel of claim 1 wherein the at least one design element is made from aluminum.

13. The wheel of claim 1 wherein the at least one design  
15 element is made from steel.

14. The wheel of claim 1 wherein the at least one design element is a shaped plate.

20 15. The wheel of claim 1 wherein the at least one design element is removably attached to the wheel blank.

16. A wheel comprising:

25 a wheel blank having an outer peripheral portion, an inner hub portion and an intermediate portion bridging the outer peripheral portion and the inner hub portion, and

30 at least one plate,

wherein the at least one plate is removably attached to the wheel blank at the intermediate portion by screws, and

1            wherein the at least one plate is a different from the  
wheel blank in at least one of the properties color, finish  
and surface texture.

5            17. A wheel comprising:

             a wheel blank having a design and  
             means for altering the design of the wheel blank by  
10           addition of at least one design element without remachining  
the wheel blank

             wherein such altering means are separate and attached to  
15           the wheel blank.